



DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

INFORMATION SERVICE

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

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FOREIGN FISHERY TRADE FOR APRIL

United States foreign trade in fishery products for April 1940 amounted to 34,293,000 pounds - a gain of 4 percent compared with the March figure of 32,984,000 pounds - according to statistics from the Bureau of Foreign and Domestic Commerce submitted to Secretary of the Interior Harold L. Ickes by the Fish and Wildlife Service.

The April 1940 figure is 10 percent above the total for April 1939 and the combined imports and exports of \$173,000,000 for the first four months of 1940 exceed by 5 percent the figure of \$165,000,000 for the same period of 1939.

Imports for April exceeded those of March by 8 percent and those of April 1939 by 1 percent. Included in the total of 22,286,000 pounds were pickled and salted cod, haddock, hake, etc., 4,706,000 pounds; fresh and frozen fresh-water fish, 2,945,000 pounds; pickled and salted herring, 2,683,000 pounds; canned sardines, 1,450,000 pounds; lobsters, not canned, 1,419,000 pounds; tuna, 316,000 pounds; and canned lobsters, 31,000 pounds.

Lobsters, not canned, displayed an increase of 147 percent over imports in March and a gain of 77 percent compared with April of a year ago. Imports of pickled or salted cod, haddock, hake, etc., increased 71 percent above the March 1940 figure and 35 percent above that of April 1939.

Fresh and frozen fresh-water fish were received in a quantity 45 percent below that of March, yet 31 percent greater than the month of April 1939.

Other striking fluctuations included a rise in imports of pickled and salted herring amounting to 82 percent over the April 1939 figure, and a decrease of 56 percent in the canned tuna received as compared with that received in April 1939.

From January through April 1940, imports of canned crab meat have exceeded those of the corresponding period of 1939 by 152 percent; imports of canned lobsters have exceeded their previous total by 59 percent; canned tuna has gained 30 percent; lobsters, not canned, 17 percent; pickled or salted herring, 12 percent; and fresh and frozen fresh-water fish, 4 percent. Decreases from the previous totals included canned sardines, 36 percent and pickled and salted cod, haddock, hake, etc., 7 percent.

Edible fishery commodities exported during April totaled 12,007,000 pounds, 2 percent less than the exports of the previous month and 34 percent larger than those of April 1939. There were 5,721,000 pounds of canned sardines included in this total, a figure 41 percent below that of March and 100 percent larger than that of April a year ago. Canned salmon contributed 5,370,000 pounds of exports, exceeding by 437 percent the total for March and by 47 percent the April 1939 figure. One hundred-fifty-five thousand pounds of canned shrimp were also included in the exports.

Totals for the four months ending with April credit export trade in fishery commodities with a 26 percent gain over the similar period in 1939. The 59,693,000 pounds of exports for the 1940 period included 37,360,000 pounds of

canned sardines, 15,909,000 pounds of canned salmon, and 890,000 pounds of canned shrimp. These represented decreases of 54 percent and 6 percent for canned shrimp and canned salmon, respectively, and a gain of 97 percent in canned sardine exports.

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